Applicant: Ding, et al.

Filed: May 15, 2006

Amendment and Response to Non-final Office Action

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

The present invention discloses a digital signature scheme based on braid group conjugacy problem and a verifying method thereof, wherein the <u>a</u> signatory S selects three braids $x \in$ $LB_m(l)$, $x' \in B_n(l)$, $a \in B_n(l)$, and considers braid pair(x',x) as a public key of S, braid a as a private key of S; Signatory S uses hash function h for a message M needing signature to get $y=h(M) \in B_n(l)$; generating a braid $b \in RB_{n-l-m}(l)$ randomly, then signing the message M with the own private key a and the braid b generated randomly to obtain $Sign(M) = a^{-1}byb^{-1}a$; a signature verifying party V obtains the public key of S, calculating the message M by employing a system parameter hash function h, obtaining the y=h(M); judging whether sign(M) and y, sign(M)x and xy are conjugate or not, if not, sign(M) is an illegal signature, the verification fails; if yes, sign(M) is a legal signature of message M; the present invention avoids the problem of k-CSP in SCSS signature scheme of prior art, and improves the security of signature algorithm and reduces the number of braids involved and the number for conjugacy decision without reducing security, thereby improving the operation efficiency of signature.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, lines 13-15, with the following amended paragraph:

Step 1f. judging whether x' belongs to the supper summit set SSS(x) and whether $l(x') \le d$, if all conditions are yes, outputting (x, x') as public key, a as private key; if either of them is not, performing step 1e.

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 7-10, with the following amended paragraph:

In this method, the form for obtaining public key of the signatory S in step 1 is an out-band form or the form of receiving public key transmitted from the signatory S; Algorithm Conjugacy

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decision algorithm in braid groups BCDA is employed in judging whether sign(M) and y are conjugate or not in step 3 and whether sign(M) x' and xy are conjugate or not in step 4.

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